

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1 and 5, and ADD claims 6-15, as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus having an image heating apparatus for holding and conveying a recording material that bears an image in a nip between a heating member and a pressurizing member to heat the image on the recording material, comprising:

a bias applying portion for applying a bias to at least one of said heating member and said pressurizing member; and

a bias setting portion for setting an amount of said applied bias;

wherein the case that a recording material(s) having a first width is fed and thereafter a recording material having a second width larger than the first width is to be fed, said bias setting portion sets said amount of the applied bias based on the number of the recording material(s) having the first width that have been fed and a time from the feeding of the recording material(s) having the first width to the feeding of the recording material having the second width.

2. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said heating member comprises a supporting member provided with a flexible moving member supported thereon and a heater having a sliding surface in sliding contact with said moving member.

3. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said bias setting portion varies, after setting the amount of the applied bias based on the number of the recording material(s) having the first width that have been fed and the time from the feeding of the recording material(s) having the first width to the feeding of the recording material having the second width, the amount of the applied bias stepwise depending on the number of the fed recording material having the second width.

4. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when the recording material having the second width is to be fed after elapse of a predetermined time after the feeding of the recording material(s) having the first width, said bias setting portion sets a constant amount of the applied bias irrespective of the number of the recording material(s) having the first width that have been fed.

5. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a static elimination member ~~means~~ is provided downstream of said nip with respect to recording material conveying direction.

--6. (New) An image forming apparatus having an image heating apparatus for holding and conveying a recording material that bears an image in a nip between a heating member and a pressurizing member to heat the image on the recording material, comprising:
a bias applying portion for applying a bias to at least one of said heating member and said pressurizing member; and

a bias setting portion for setting an amount of said applied bias;

wherein in the case that a certain number of recording materials having a first width is fed and thereafter a recording material having a second width larger than the first width is to be fed, said bias setting portion variably sets said amount of the applied bias according to a time from the feeding of the recording materials having the first width to the feeding of the recording material having the second width.

7. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said heating member comprises a supporting member provided with a flexible moving member supported thereon and a heater having a sliding surface in sliding contact with said moving member.

8. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said bias setting portion varies, after setting the amount of the applied bias according to the time from the feeding of the recording materials having the first width to the feeding of the recording material having the second width, the amount of the applied bias stepwise depending on the number of the fed recording material having the second width.

9. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when the recording material having the second width is to be fed after elapse of a predetermined time after the feeding of the recording materials having the first width, said bias setting portion sets a constant amount of the applied bias.

10. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a static elimination member is provided downstream of said nip with respect to recording material conveying direction.

11. (New) An image forming apparatus having an image heating apparatus for holding and conveying a recording material that bears an image in a nip between a heating member and a pressurizing member to heat the image on the recording material, comprising:

a bias applying portion for applying a bias to at least one of said heating member and said pressurizing member; and

a bias setting portion for setting an amount of said applied bias;

wherein in the case that a recording material(s) having a first width is fed and thereafter a recording material having a second width larger than the first width is to be fed, said bias setting portion variably sets said amount of the applied bias according to the number of the recording material(s) having the first width that have been fed.

12. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said heating member comprises a supporting member provided with a flexible moving member supported thereon and a heater having a sliding surface in sliding contact with said moving member.

13. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said bias setting portion varies, after setting the amount of the applied bias according to the number of

the recording material(s) having the first width that have been fed, the amount of the applied bias stepwise depending on the number of the fed recording material having the second width.

14. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein when the recording material having the second width is to be fed after elapse of a predetermined time after the feeding of the recording material(s) having the first width, said bias setting portion sets a constant amount of the applied bias irrespective of the number of the recording material(s) having the first width that have been fed.

15. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 11, wherein a static elimination member is provided downstream of said nip with respect to recording material conveying direction.--